

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0021]** A tapering section 13 and 14 is respectively positioned between the fixing sections 7 and 8 and the throttle section 9. As shown in FIGS. 2 and 3, fixing sections 7 and 8 are joined to throttle portion 9 by first and second tapering portions 13 and 14. First and second tapering portions 13 and 14 may be of predetermined lengths and angles, in order to fit stent 4 to specific applications.